

EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL

THE ONLY OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF ORGANIZED LABOR IN ALAMEDA COUNTY

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Action due on anti-scab measure



TEAM EFFORT by unions with retail or service trade jurisdiction is underway to organize pockets of non-union business in largely union shopping centers in Alameda County. AFL-CIO Director of Organization William L. Kircher told details at a press conference last week.

Left to right are AFL-CIO Regional Director Dan Flanagan, Alameda County Central Labor Council President Russell R. Crowell (partly hidden by television camera), Kircher and Labor Council Executive Secretary-Treasurer Richard K. Groulx.

Kircher kicks off unique organizing here

Labor's first local community organizing effort in one industry was underway in the East Bay this week—a teamwork campaign by more than a dozen unions to organize non-union businesses within largely organized Alameda County shopping centers.

AFL-CIO Director of Organization William L. Kircher at a press conference last week described the program which was developed by the Central Labor Council and unions with interest in shopping center enterprises.

"The AFL-CIO has been troub-

"This works a hardship on the

wages and fringe benefits which labor seeks to achieve."

To cure such threatened slowdowns of union gains, Kircher said, Alameda County labor is launching a "real conglomerate effort under the leadership of the Central Labor Council."

Teamwork is the key to the campaign, which will see union representatives engaging in "cross pollination"—advising unorganized workers in another trade to join other unions as well as organizing in their own trades, Kircher said.

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Western Union strike vote

Members of the United Telegraph Workers this week began voting on strike authorization against Western Union which proposed in nationwide negotiations in Washington to eliminate the main job security clause in the present contract.

Western Union, which has cut employment by service reductions, told union negotiators it wanted to eliminate all reference to comparable jobs from the contract.

from the EDITOR'S CHAIR

Impeach Warren Earl?

Soon the cry, "Impeach Warren E. Burger," will ring out from the Orange County suburbs to the Alabama statehouse.

I tried real hard to get the word "rockbound" in that sentence as in the old line "from the rockbound coast of Maine," but all I could think of was "rock-

UTW's current contract with the monopoly telegraph firm ensures all employees of a job if they are willing to take comparable employment when staff is reduced.

If WU cannot offer comparable work it must, under the present agreement, keep the employees on the payroll without pay loss.

UTW Local 208 here told its members that WU plans drastic staff reductions during the next contract term as result of automation and other changes.

Local 208 President Larry Ross urged a strong vote for strike, noting that:

"The company is looking beyond the bargaining table at the thousands of members who have the power to close Western Union down."

"The pitch will be to them. As soon as the company is convinced that the members cannot be divided, it will show respect for our team at the bargaining table."

"Then meaningful talks will begin."

Negotiations opened last week with UTW asking 16 per cent pay raises in each year of a two-

MORE on page 5

John Sutter gets COPE backing

Alameda County COPE this week endorsed John Sutter for Oakland city councilman and reaffirmed its support for Ellison W. Brown Jr. for board of education at the May 18 election.

Sutter, a strong supporter of environmental protection, ran second in a field of 10 in the May 20 election race for councilman at large and will run off against the incumbent on May 18. COPE had not taken a position on the April 20 race.

Brown, COPE - endorsed for Board of Education Director 4 on April 20, led a three-man field with 34,348 votes but missed a majority, throwing him into the May 18 runoff.

He announced this week that Richard Doughty, third candidate in the board contest who got 15,979 votes, had endorsed him in the runoff.

The Central Labor Council this week voted to oppose Proposition 1 on the May 18 ballot for a full-time mayor.

Rather than the present measure, COPE declared, there should be a fulltime mayor with elimination of the office of city manager to give Oakland a genuinely strong mayor.

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Professional strikebreakers ban up for hearing next week

First test of the 1971 drive to outlaw professional strikebreaking in California comes next Wednesday, May 5 when the Assembly Labor Relations Committee takes up Assembly Bill 490.

The California Labor Federation-sponsored measure, by Los Angeles Democratic Assemblyman David Roberti, would forbid employment during a management-labor dispute of persons who customarily offer themselves as strikebreakers.

The measure has a good chance to pass this year, Sacramento observers said, contrasted to failure of similar bills at past sessions.

Union spokesmen urged a big turnout of labor representatives and union members at the hearing, which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. in Room 6038 of the State Capitol.

Two other major Labor Federation bills are also due for action at the hearing. They are:

AB 844, to permit collective bargaining for public employees and others not now specifically permitted to bargain.

AB 566 to raise the state minimum wage to \$2.25 an hour and cut the straight time work week to 35 hours for all public and private industry employees.

Two Federation bills, AB 1257 to extend unemployment insurance protection to farm workers and AB 1256 for unemployment insurance protection for state and local government employees, household workers and employees of non-profit organizations, will have a committee hearing next Tuesday, May 4.

The hearing is set for 3:45 p.m. by the Unemployment & Disability Insurance subcommittee of the Senate Finance & Insurance Committee in Room 3188, State Capitol.

Other Sacramento developments:

1. Oakland Assemblyman Ken Meade introduced two Federation - sponsored bills to restore tuition-free higher education. They are Assembly Concurrent Resolution 73, forbidding tuition charges to California residents, and AB 2963 providing that the state take full financial responsibility.

MORE on page 8

No offer to phone union in U.S. talks

Negotiations for close to 250,000 telephone employees across the nation went into their fourth week Monday with no management offer on new agreements to supplant those set to expire today, Friday.

Bargaining with the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company in San Francisco was a Communications Workers of America committee representing some 65,000 employees in California and Nevada, including CWA Local 9415 members here.

Negotiations with another dozen Bell System companies were underway in other states. In New York CWA was bargaining with the Bell System's Western Electric Company on a nationwide basis.

Union spokesmen would not comment on their plans if, as was probable, there is no settlement by today. No strike sanction request had been made to local central labor bodies. If Western Electric unionists strike, however, other CWA members were to respect picket lines where they were set up.

Bargaining began across the nation on April 5. CWA asked substantial pay increases, the agency shop requiring those not joining the union which represents them to pay it the equivalent of dues and assessments, and

MORE on page 8

Congressmen are pessimistic on Nixon release of funds

Building Trades Department legislative conference in Washington.

All three, Alameda County Building Trades Council Secretary-Treasurer Lamar Childers reported this week, said they supported legislation to eliminate the President's authority to

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OFFICIAL NOTICES

Union meeting notices page 6, correspondents columns pages 4 and 5.

A hollow threat over credit charges

By SIDNEY MARGOLIUS
Labor Journal Consumer Expert

A nationwide battle is shaping up over the amount of finance charges that retailers charge for "revolving" charge accounts.

As labor and consumer groups in various states are seeking lower rates through legislative and court actions, large retailers are threatening that lower credit rates will force them to raise merchandise prices.

The main issue is the rate of 1½ per cent a month on the declining balance of the widely-used revolving credit and bank charge-account plans.

Figured as an annual percentage rate, this comes to 18 per cent a year.

Sometimes the true annual rate is even higher since many retailers calculate the fee on the previous month's ending balance without first subtracting the payments made for the current month. They nick you for a little more interest this way.

In several states legal steps have forced a reduction in the rate and the retailers are getting worried.

THE WASHINGTON State Labor Council led the way in 1968 by getting a public referendum which voted to establish a maximum of 12 per cent a year on all retail credit plans.

Soon thereafter the AFL-CIO called for a national campaign

by state councils to bring retail credit rates down to no more than 12 per cent a year. Then, in 1970 the Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled that interest rates over 12 per cent are usurious.

Used car financing rates are especially high. In many states, laws permit rates of 21 per cent a year and more on used cars.)

In Minnesota the state labor council brought a lawsuit charging that 18 per cent was usurious.

The lower court ruled that an annual interest rate of more than 8 per cent for charge accounts did violate Minnesota's anti-usury law. The retailer involved, Montgomery Ward, is now appealing this decision to the state Supreme Court.

Meanwhile the Minnesota state attorney general has filed suits charging that banks sponsoring the Master Charge credit-card plans are violating the anti-usury law by charging 18 per cent a year.

IN IOWA, TOO, the state attorney general has filed suits asking the court to order Sears, Younkers (a leading department store there), and the Standard Oil Company of Indiana to stop charging 18 per cent a year. The attorney general contends that Iowans are legally bound to pay only 9 per cent interest.

Oregon labor organizations also called for a 12 per cent ceiling.

It had become noticeable that consumers in neighboring Wash-

ington were able to save up to \$110 on financing a new car, and as much as \$328 on financing used cars.

Used car financing rates are especially high. In many states, laws permit rates of 21 per cent a year and more on used cars.)

You can imagine how worried the retailers and banks are by the rising tide of successful legal actions against the 18 per cent rate. Now the backlash is starting.

A bill sponsored by dealers and banks has been introduced into the Washington Legislature to raise the credit rate to 15 per cent.

Leading retailers also are warning that if they can't make money on credit fees they will have to raise prices on the merchandise itself.

Montgomery Ward announced that its profits on credit sales had gone down last year. It made less than \$6,000,000 on credit sales of a little over one billion dollars. The company said it would continue to resist efforts to reduce credit fees.

ACTUALLY the battle over interest rates is flushing the retailers out in the open.

They now are being forced to admit publicly that most of them do make money on the finance charge, as well as on the merchandise.

The fact that some may not have made as much profit last year as the year before is at least partly a temporary phenomenon resulting from the higher interest rates they themselves paid other lenders in 1970 for funds to finance credit sales.

These rates have gone down considerably in 1971.

The specter of higher prices for the merchandise means that stores would try to get cash customers to help subsidize credit customers.

But the threat is a hollow one. If stores featuring credit plans charge more for the merchandise, stores which do most of their business for cash will have lower prices and get the customers. Consumers traditionally are sharper about comparing prices than comparing finance charges.

The irony is that even now you don't have to pay 18 per cent for retail credit. You can borrow the

cash for 12 per cent a year or less at a credit union and shop with the cash in hand.

Even most commercial banks charge less than 14 per cent a year for personal and car loans, and some charge only 12 per cent or a little less.

INTERESTINGLY, these are the same banks that promote retail credit plans like Master Charge and BankAmericard which charge 18 per cent a year. Also, many consumers use revolving credit plans even more than they really need to, such as small purchases like minor clothing articles. These really should be cash purchases.

But the banks have been trying to promote their credit cards for buying everything, as BankAmericard says, "from shoes to sailboats."

(Copyright 1971)

Your money's worth: auto insurance reform

Consumers Union set up 14 criteria for auto insurance reforms to stabilize the "runaway price of insurance" and halt what it called the wave of millions of cancellations.

CU adopts or modifies many features of four major current "no-fault" proposals under which a driver does not have to prove another's negligence in order to recover the injury expenses paid out of his own pocket.

Major reforms of the plan detailed in the April issue of CU's magazine Consumer Reports are:

MEDICAL CARE — All people injured in car accidents would receive the expenses of complete medical care, including rehabilitation — regardless of who caused the accident.

WAGE REPLACEMENT — The equivalent of their take-home pay up to a maximum necessary for a decent standard of living would be provided to all disabled victims who cannot work, or their earning capacity if they are students or temporarily unemployed.

PERIODIC PAYMENT — Monthly, instead of lump-sum, payments to meet expenses and

wage loss would be provided all victims.

OTHER INSURANCE — Auto insurance benefits would not overlap medical or hospital policies, or other similar payments.

CANCELLATION — Policies must be noncancelable, guaranteed renewable, and available to all, thus eliminating "assigned risk" status.

Consumers Union says "the fault system of auto insurance has broken down." CU says the present system misdirects consumer expenditures and puts a heavy and costly burden on the time and facilities of the civil courts.

CU says the present system is full of inequities, citing a Department of Transportation study showing people who suffered less than \$500 in injury costs collected an average of four times their loss, while those paying more than \$25,000 in injury costs collected an average of only 15 per cent of their loss.

The federal study also showed that when a highway accident costs an individual \$10,000, only three in 10 recover more than half of their loss, counting pay-

ments from sick-leave plans, Social Security, collision coverage and all other insurance.

The Consumers Union insurance-reform proposals have the endorsement of the Consumer Federation of America.

The "no-fault" approach is a key principle of four pioneering auto insurance reform plans known as the Keeton-O'Connell plan, the American Insurance Association plan, the New York State plan, and the more recent plan sponsored by U.S. Senators Philip A. Hart and Warren G. Magnuson.

The Consumers Union plan would eliminate the \$10,000 limitation in the no-fault benefits proposed by the Keeton-O'Connell plan, and its call for unlimited wage replacement for disabled victims is more extensive than all but the New York State plan.

The CU reform position expands on all but the Hart-Magnuson proposal to include a provision that auto insurance policies must be noncancelable and guaranteed renewable as long as premium payments are met.

Insurance companies would have to sell coverage to everyone eligible to drive or own a car, instead of only being required to take its share of "assigned risks."

If possible at a reasonable premium, the new insurance would pay all permanently disabled or disfigured victims for their pain and suffering as well as out-of-pocket losses.

Regulations of the insurance industry, its rates and practices would be moved to a new federal agency from the individual states.

Premium rates would be open to competition and every company would have to use the same rating system so that consumers could easily compare prices. The government would also publish data permitting consumers to judge the quality of an insurer's claim service.

Insurance covering damage to cars would remain optional under the Consumers Union proposal.

challenges to all forms of sex discrimination that violate the 14th Amendment's guarantee of "equal protection of the law."

This would be done by amending the 1964 Civil Rights Act to extend the Attorney General's powers to act against racial and religious discrimination to include discrimination based on sex.

• Removing from the federal Fair Labor Standards Act the present exemption of executive, administrative and professional employees from the coverage of the Equal Pay Act. The act prohibits wage discrimination between men and women doing the same work. The present law is basically limited to jobs covered by the wage-hour law.

Booklet on Congress

"Labor Looks at the 91st Congress," a 128-page booklet on Congress' performance last year, is available from the Pamphlet Division of the AFL-CIO Department of Publications, 815 Sixteenth Street N.W., Washington, D.C., for 15 cents per copy and 100 for \$13.50. Checks should be made to AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer.

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AFL-CIO asks \$2 minimum wage now

The AFL-CIO last week told Congress that there must be an immediate increase in the federal minimum wage to at least \$2 an hour.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller also opposed arguments that the minimum should be lower for teenagers than for adults.

There has long been employer support for such a move and there has been a Nixon administration study of possible lower teen-age minimums.

Biemiller told a House Education & Labor subcommittee that the AFL-CIO opposes the "interim step" of \$1.80 per hour in House Resolution 7130 drafted by Subcommittee Chairman John Dent, Pennsylvania Democrat.

The \$2 minimum cannot be postponed until 1973 as HR 7130 would order, he said.

"Justice for low-wage workers demands immediate action to raise the minimum wage," Biemiller said.

Miller told the subcommittee. "The economy needs — and must have — the added purchasing power these increases will provide."

Calling H. R. 7130 "a modest bill," Biemiller said it "would make a significant start" in extending coverage of the Fair Labor Standards Act to all workers. He called for important improvements in the measure and its prompt passage.

The bill would cover more than 4,700,000 governmental employees not now protected by the minimum wage provisions.

Biemiller said this extended coverage would close the largest single loophole in the Fair Labor Standards Act.

The proposals for a lower teen-age wage minimum, he said, would cause "displacement of working heads of families, blatant discrimination against young workers, loss of dignity in the

work they perform, and an unfair increase in profits for those unscrupulous employers who would discriminate against teenagers by paying them a lower wage than adults for the same work."

He said "a growing economy and full employment," not a lower minimum wage, would "solve teenage unemployment."

The AFL-CIO supports, Biemiller stated, provisions in the bill that would bring agricultural workers now covered by minimum wage to the same level as non-agricultural workers.

Noting that full-time workers earning the minimum wage now make less than the federally-defined poverty level, Biemiller called the minimum wage increase "emergency legislation."

But, he told the committee, that the AFL-CIO will urge future improvements in the Fair Labor Standards Act.



PLUMBERS & PIPEFITTERS President Peter T. Schoemann, left, shakes hands with Assistant President Martin J. Ward as he announces he is retiring. Ward will be acting president for the balance of Schoemann's term.

UA president steps down

Peter T. Schoemann will step down as general president of the & Construction Trades Council for 20 years.

He was named assistant to the general president in 1952 and served as acting president when the late Martin P. Durkin was back.

Assistant General President Martin J. Ward will serve the balance of his term which ends next summer.

Schoemann told a luncheon during last week's AFL-CIO Building Trades Department Legislative Conference in Washington that he would ask the UA general board for a leave of absence effective June 1 and would not run for re-election at the August international convention in Detroit.

Schoemann said it will be "both a pleasure and a privilege" to nominate Ward for president.

Ward has been a national officer since he was elected assistant secretary-treasurer in 1958 at the age of 39.

Ward began his apprenticeship as a pipefitter in 1937, became a business representative of his Chicago local in 1950 and business manager two years later.

After six years as a national officer, he was named general secretary-treasurer in 1966 and served in that post until his appointment as assistant general president in 1969.

Schoemann, who remains an AFL-CIO vice president, received his card in the Milwaukee Plumbers Local 75 in 1914, served as a local union officer as well as a national vice president and also headed the Milwaukee Building

& Construction Trades Council in 1955, and was unanimously re-elected at the union's subsequent conventions.

Schoemann said he will remain available for consultation and he predicted that the union, under Ward's leadership, "will meet the challenges of the future as we have so successfully met the challenges of the past."

Childers is wed to Ruth Depole

Alameda County Building Trades Council Secretary-Treasurer Lamar Childers was married in Reno last Friday to Ruth Irene Depole.

The bride, then Ruth Bassett, was employed by the Labor Temple Association here in the early 1950s.

The wedding party included Childers' daughter Arilee Brogdon and her husband Frank, the bride's two sons, Bill Bassett Jr. and Donald, and Mrs. Bill Bassett Jr.; William Norman of Lathers Local 88 and Mrs. Norman, Fred Payne, director of the BTC's Project Upgrade, and Mrs. Payne.

Proposed Medicare cuts hit

Labor nationally and in the East Bay registered strong protests against the House Ways & Means Committee's move to cut back Medicare coverage.

The committee majority tentatively agreed to back a cut in Medicare hospital coverage from the present 60 days to 15 days and increase deductible items in benefits.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller wrote the committee that cutbacks are the wrong way to deal with rising medical costs.

He urged the committee instead to "fix effective cost controls such as prospective hospital budgeting and fee schedules for doctors."

Alameda County Central Labor Council Executive Secretary-Treasurer Richard K. Groulx wired Congressman Philip Burton, James Corman and Jerry Pettis, California members of the committee, that:

"The Alameda County Central Labor Council protests the proposed cut in Medicare reducing fully insured coverage for hospital confinement from 60 days to 15 days as a step backward.

"Let's keep health care off a seesaw."

Corman, a co-author of the law-supported National Health Security Act, was first to reply. He assured the Labor Council that he "will continue to voice strong opposition to these points in the Ways & Means Committee

... I am firmly against co-insurance in any amount being imposed on Medicare beneficiaries."

Even without cutbacks, Medicare only pays for about 50 percent of elderly persons' health care, Biemiller wrote the committee.

The committee proposal would require patients to pay one-eighth of hospital costs from the 16th through 60th day and impose a larger initial payment before Medicare benefits take effect.

State labor backs education march

The California Labor Federation has thrown its support behind the Sacramento March for Education to be staged by California unionists Saturday, May 15.

The demonstration is aimed at bringing thousands of unionists to the state capital to spotlight for the public the state and federal cutbacks in educational financing and the need for collective bargaining for teachers and other public workers.

Its sponsors are American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees unions, the California Federation of Teachers, the Public Workers Committee of the Western Conference of Service Employees and the Transport Workers.

Endorsement was previously voted by the Alameda County Central Labor Council.

Federation Secretary John F. Henning pointed out that state financing of education has dropped from 50 per cent to just over 35 per cent in recent years of Governor Reagan's "austerity."

President Nixon plans cuts in federal aid which could cost California taxpayers millions more, he warned.

Over-all march coordinator is James Gallagher, CFT Northern California director of organization. He can be reached at 441 Thirteenth Street, Oakland, Room 600, telephone 893-0260.

For AFSCME locals the coordinator is Marge Green. John Jeffery, of San Francisco City & County Employees Local 400 is Service Employees coordinator and filling the same duties for Transport Workers is Frank Mototza Jr., of San Francisco Transport Workers Local 292.

"Both the financial crisis and the turmoil in California school districts resulting from autocratic actions by some school boards can be resolved equitably only by affording teachers and other public employees full collective bargaining rights and by winning enactment of state tax reforms," said Henning.

Local 823 has been picketing for months and this week again urged unionists not to patronize the restaurant.

Also picketed by Local 823 was

the new Shakey's Pizza on West

Jackson Street near Amador

Street, Hayward, which refused

a standard area agreement when

it opened this year.

L.A. is an hour and fifty cents closer to home.

Now, PSA and Western Airlines fly to you, rather than you driving to them. With 12 round trips a day from Oakland to Los

Angeles. That puts L.A. about an hour and 50 cents closer to the East Bay. Maybe even more if you think of the time you save parking. Come to think of it, Oakland puts you an hour

and 50 cents closer to a lot of places. Ask your travel agent. **Or call the Fly Oakland Girl, 562-4165. She's on your side.**

FLY OAKLAND

Sheet Metal 216

BY KEITH & JIM

Now that we are having good weather and it is beer drinking time, remember, Coors Beer is not the beer for a union construction worker to drink. Here are a few things to remember before you order your six pack.

Since 1961 construction unions in Denver, Colorado have had union agreements with Adolph Coors Company, brewers of Coors Beer, calling for the payment of building trades wage rates and fringe benefits for new construction and related work at sites of Coors Brewery.

The company has disrupted this peaceful relationship by refusing to sign a new labor agreement calling for payment of construction union wages. The company has further openly recruited employees that have taken union construction workers' jobs who are engaged in a legal strike.

Remember we are directing this action solely against Adolph Coors Company and Coors Beer. We have no dispute with any other party and ask that you refrain from purchasing Coors Beer at any time.

PLEASE

DON'T BUY COORS BEER

We hate to keep harping all the time about the same thing but whether we have high unemployment or not, it is everyone's job to see that sheet metal workers do sheet metal work. When capping, nosing, and flashing of other types are being installed by any other craft, especially when we are supplying on your jobs, call the office and let us secure this work. Don't you as individuals say anything on the jobs or in the shops because of possible retaliation by the general contractor or your boss. Remember, just because it's metal doesn't make it ours to fabricate and/or install so if all things brought to our attention are not turned over to our craft please keep an open mind. Be sure and tell us when the job first starts because once another craft has started installation it is a real hassle to get the work back. Another thing, we know that everyone has to make a living but let it be sheet metal workers.

From time to time we are going to inform you about safety in the column. If one reader can save himself from any accident it is well worth both your time and ours. The following are some of the safety practices as outlined in the State Safety Code:

1. All persons shall follow these safe practices rules, render every possible aid to safe operations, and report all unsafe conditions or practices to the proper authority.

2. Foreman shall insist on employees observing and obeying every rule, regulation, and order as is necessary to the safe conduct of the work, and shall take such action as is necessary to obtain compliance.

3. All employees shall be given frequent accident prevention instructions. Instructions shall be given at least once every 10 working days.

4. Anyone known to be under the influence of intoxicating liquor shall not be allowed on the job while in that condition.

5. Horseplay, scuffling, and other acts which tend to have an adverse influence on the safety of wellbeing of the employees are prohibited.

6. Work shall be well planned and supervised to forestall injuries in the handling of heavy materials and in working together with equipment.

7. No one shall knowingly be permitted or required to work while his ability or alertness is so impaired by fatigue, illness, or other causes that might unnecessarily expose him or others to injury.

8. Employees shall not enter manholes, underground vaults, chambers, tanks, silos, or other areas granted to the corporations but

similar places that receive little ventilation, until it has been determined that the air contains no flammable or toxic gasses or vapors.

9. Employees should be alert to see that all guards and other protective devices are in proper places and adjusted, and shall report deficiencies promptly to the foreman or superintendent.

10. Crowding or pushing when boarding or leaving any vehicle or other conveyance is prohibited.

REMEMBER

THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "Every beginning is a consequence — every beginning ends something." Valery

Members of the Tri - State Death Benefit Plan, Death Assessment 698 is now due and payable.

Regular membership meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month, 8 p.m., Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, CA.

Barbers 134

BY JACK M. REED

Brothers, I have been informed that Federal Judge William Steckler has named a monitor to hold a Referendum vote by the members as to whether they choose to continue with the Pension Plan, after it has been revamped by a company that is going to recommend the necessary changes to make it actuarially sound, or to liquidate it.

At least, the Judge ruled against putting the Pension into receivership. It will take about three or four months before a final result will be known.

A few weeks ago I asked that letters be sent to your legislator in Sacramento in opposition to allow Retarded people to be given Barber Licenses. Very few members responded, but to the few that did I would like to thank them. It is always a few that have to carry the ball for the apathetic majority.

Last Sunday a seminar was held at the Oakland Hilton Hotel for Officers and Executive Board members. Here again the people that could most benefit were absent.

Brothers due to your local's drop in membership and finances, Carl Knight our Business Representative is leaving. I would like to thank Carl on behalf of the Executive Board and the membership for his hard work and cooperation and wish him well and much success on his new job as stylist in new V.I.P. Stylist Salon in San Francisco.

See results of vote on Resolution and 8th and 9th International Vice-Presidents in Official Notices.

AFSCME 1695

BY ERNIE HABERKERN

On May 15 four unions, the California Federation of Teachers, the Service Employees International Union, the Transport Workers Union and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, are sponsoring a march and rally in Sacramento.

The march is concentrating on two issues. The first is the budget crisis that is hitting the education system and the second is the right of public employees to bargain collectively with their employer. The response of the Governor and the state Legislature to financial problems is to put the burden of paying for it on the backs of the working people of the state.

Within the educational system (and the other publicly supported industries and services) costs are cut not by eliminating administrative overhead and the special privileges and services granted to the corporations but

by laying off and speeding up the employees.

On the other hand, the state attempts to find the money for such services by increasing taxes on the consumer, the homeowner and, indirectly, on those working people whose rents have to cover the cost of the landlord's property taxes. Only organized labor can stop this shell game in which the state pits the worker as public employee against the worker as consumer and taxpayer.

In addition, it is only organized labor which unites the public employee with the rest of the labor force that foots the bill for public services. Without this link the worker in private industry tends to think of the public employee as a free loader living off his tax money. It is just such an image of public employees that some of our more backward political misleaders would like to see the public believe. It aids them in their attempts to break public employees unions. The labor movement, however, has the political muscle, or could have the political muscle, to propose a realistic alternative to higher taxes for the average worker. That alternative is a fight against the corporate interests which are turning tax-supported industries and services into so many sources of private profit.

On the other hand, the organization of public employees is a vital necessity for the rest of the labor movement. As the public sector of the economy grows the percentage of the work force without collective bargaining rights and the right to strike grows too.

Legislation which tries to maintain the prevailing rates and conditions within the public sector can easily be gotten around as Nixon's recent actions prove. Without strong organization in the public sector labor's rights are weakened in the rest of the economy. As workers are laid off in the public sector there are many more unemployed competing for jobs in the private sector.

A united fight against the anti-labor offensive can only be started by this May 15th demonstration. But a start has to be made.

Millmen's 550

BY ARSIE BIGBY

Work in the Mill Cabinet Trade has picked up some recently in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

We are receiving requests for bench men (both Journeyman and Apprentice) to do fixtures, kitchen cabinets and Formica tops. Members out of work who are not now registered on the out of work list should register for work at once.

It is too early to assess whether or not this is a real pickup or whether it is just a temporary thing.

Our new phone number at the Office is 839-5656 should you desire to register by phone.

Some members are still calling to find out the new address and phone number of the Mill Cabinet Trust Office. For those who don't know what it is: 995 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94103, Phone number 986-4736.

Watchmakers 101

BY GEORGE F. ALLEN

Those of you who did not attend the meeting held in San Francisco on April 15th missed a very interesting meeting.

Brother Harris Call who attended a week's instruction at the Rolex factory in New York was at the meeting and gave a very interesting talk on what he had learned that week relative to this particular watch. In fact, it was so interesting, those present requested that he give a more detailed report on the information he had received at the Rolex factory, at the coming May 20th meeting to be held in San Francisco.

Also at this May 20th meeting, which is on Thursday, Brother Gilbert West, who is our Instructor at the John O'Connell Vocational School, will be in attendance to give us information on the various other types of new watches.

There will be a question and answering session which should be very interesting, as well as educational, to all watchmakers.

REMEMBER THE DATE: — Thursday, May 20th at 7:30 p.m., 785 Market Street, in the Assembly Room No. 317, San Francisco. Keep this date in mind and this night open on your calendar, in order that you may be in attendance. We know all watchmakers will concur it was very interesting and will be glad they did attend.

We will remind you of the day, time and place in a later column.

SAN JOSE MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 4, 1971, at 7:30 p.m., Labor Temple, 2102 Almaden Road, San Jose.

Dental Technicians 99

BY LEO TURNER

Based on the continuing rise in the cost of living as shown by the latest figures just released, I have notified the employers that another three cents (.03) per hour increase is due under the cost of living provision of the Technicians' contract. This increase will be retroactive to March 1, 1971.

A meeting of our Negotiating Committee is being held with the employers this week to discuss the implementation of our Dental Fund as negotiated last year. The contract requires agreement on the operation of the plan by July 1st or in the event of failure to reach agreement, then the funds would be applied to either the Welfare or Pension Plans. We will give at least a preliminary report on these negotiations at the next Local meeting on Wednesday of next week. Whatever decision is finally made in this matter will be subject to membership approval.

By this time, all members have received the material I sent out on Assembly Bill 1092. I hope you have taken a few minutes of your time to write a letter or a card to your Assemblyman urging him to defeat this measure. If you haven't done this yet, don't put it off much longer!

Steamfitters 342

STEAMFITTER GOLF NOTES

By BILL PHILLIPS

Below you will find the results of our Club's last two tournaments held at Livermore and Santa Rosa.

Our next scheduled tournament will be held at Silver Pines Golf Course, 8650 Jarvis Avenue, Newark on Saturday, May 29, 1971. The starting time will be 9:30 with the entry fee being \$7.50. The cutoff date for the entry fees will be May 15. All fees should be mailed to Jim Miller.

We wish to remind all members that all tournaments are scheduled with a cutoff date or deadline date for your entry fees to be received by the directors so it will be appreciated if you plan to attend future tournaments that you be sure to mail your entry fee on or before the deadline date or your reservation will not be honored. Your cooperation in this matter will be appreciated so that we may have better organized tournaments.

LAS POSITAS GOLF COURSE Livermore, Calif., March 27, 1971

First Flight: Net Scores

Bill Phillips 72

Bill Baker 74

Jim Morgan 74

Bill Emigh 75

Dale Tipton 75

Babe Harrison 75

Jim Miller 76

Jim Gibson 77

Second Flight: Net Scores

Hub Stewart 66

Jack Telfer 70

Pete Vigna 72

Don Loyd 76

Bob Dubuque 77

Jim Martin 78

Roy Reeves 79

Al Konopka 79

Brian Robeck 83

Don Fullmore 90

Low Gross: Bill Phillips and Hub Stewart tied with 88.

Nearest to pin on the 11th hole: Hub Stewart.

OAKMONT GOLF COURSE Santa Rosa, Calif., April 10, 1971

First Flight: Net Scores

Jim Miller 65

Jim Bankhead 68

Bill Emigh 69

Dale Tipton 69

Doyal Walker 72

Bill Phillips 74

Si Timberman 74

Alan Ray 75

George Quadros 78

Jim Gibson 80

Babe Harrison 83

Second Flight: Net Scores

Ken Scoggins 71

Don Brown 73

Bill Burchell 73

Don Fullmore 73

Al Konopka 75

Pete Vigna 76

Ray Nummi 78

Hub Stewart 79

Don Loyd 79

Low Gross: Jim Miller and Bill Emigh tied with 83.

Nearest to pin on the 17th hole: Don Fullmore.

U.S. workers pick unions

Federal employees chose to be represented by unions in 74 of 77 collective bargaining elections held between January 1, 1970 and February 28, 1971. The elections covered 23,500 workers and 80 per cent voted for unionism.

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Chips and Chatter

BY GUNNER (BENNY) BENONYS

Brother Earl Bagwell visited us this morning. He is retired and lives at Payette, Idaho, Route 1, P.O. Box 243-B. Has a 24 by 50 brand new mobile home on an acre. Has his own 100 foot well for good cool, clear water to drink and irrigate. Hunting and fishing are wonderful activities. Located just out of the city limits of Payette, 50 miles to Boise. Says "Hello" to the Brothers.

Uncle Benny claims this country has made such social and economic strides that most families manage to have all the comforts of home except money!

Li'l GeeGee, our office vamp, defines Grandma as a lady who keeps your mother from spanking you.

Cousin Al defines Governor as a device attached to every state to keep him from going too fast.

Don't forget, Brothers, if for any reason you wish to change your health and welfare coverage from one group to another, this must be done before May 15, 1971. You can make a change only once a year.

Brother Knud Jensen and Claire are planning a long auto trip for some time in June. They will travel the southern route to Florida, north to the Great Lakes

Western Union strike vote; jobs the issue

Continued from page 1

year contract, and job protection.

Western Union submitted 12 proposals, the most important of which is the elimination of comparable job language which would block widespread layoffs.

UTW wants 16 per cent raises effective June 1 and June 1,

and Canada and back along the northern route to the west coast and home. Sounds like a great trip, Knud.

OPERATION PAPERBACK is limping along. Many thanks to Brother Karl Buse for his donation of paperbacks. They are certainly appreciated. Do you have some to donate to the cause? Drop them off at the hall on your next visit.

Today, Monday, is the first of several negotiation meetings with the employers representatives. We will hear more about this item later.

Brothers Allen Linder and Paul Makela, who were our delegates to the National Legislative Conference in Washington, are back. We look forward to an interesting and informative report at a subsequent meeting.

Will see you at YOUR next UNION meeting, Brothers?

1972 and job protection against "Mailgram" and other management devices to cut employment.

Under Mailgram, many messages are sent directly from subscribers to post offices from which they are delivered by postmen on their next rounds.

The union has fought the setup as a job-destroyer.

It wants the new contract to provide that all Mailgram messages be handled, prepared and

mailed by WU employees and all Mailgram equipment be installed, maintained and repaired by WU employees.

UTW also seeks to ban contracting out of work "normally and historically performed by employees . . ." and forbid consolidations of offices or departments or transfers of work among major departments or among districts or divisions during the life of the contract.

Mortgage aid to jobless planned in Cranston bill

U.S. Senator Alan Cranston and 16 co-sponsors from both parties have introduced a bill to insure loans to recession-hit homeowners who can't make mortgage payments because they are jobless or have taken a big pay cut.

The bill is Senate Bill 735. It would authorize \$25,000,000 to insure private loans to homeowners suffering under "adverse economic conditions" in an industry or area.

They would qualify if they have lost a job and are still unemployed or if they have found temporary work paying less than half of their former wages. Such a temporary job may not pay more than \$10,000 a year.

Borrowers may get loans to make a year's mortgage payments but the original mortgage must not exceed \$33,000.

Co-sponsors of the California Democrat's bill are Senators Birch Bayh (D., Ind.), Hubert Humphrey (D., Minn.), Harold Hughes (D., Iowa), George McGovern (D., S.D.), Edward Brooke (R., Mass.), Jacob Javits (R., N.Y.), Warren Magnuson (D., Wash.), Fred Harris (D., Okla.), Walter Mondale (D., Minn.), Gaylord Nelson (D., Wis.), Alan Bible (D., Nev.), Mike Gravel (R., Alaska), Ernest Hollings (D., S.C.), Frank Moss (D., Utah), John Pastore (D., R.I.) and Harrison Williams (D., N.J.).

Benefit concert for school safety

Voice teacher Helen Stephens and the Voices of Christ group will present a concert at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow Saturday, May 1 at Oakland High School auditorium to benefit the campaign for the School Earthquake Safety Measure at the May 18 Oakland election.

The event is sponsored by the Metropolitan Unified Ministerial Council and its president, the Reverend L. H. Murphy. Admission is \$1 for students and \$2 for adults.

Strike OK'd against Livermore parade

Musicians Local 510 last week got Alameda County Central Labor Council strike sanction against the promoters of the Livermore Rodeo Parade June 12 for their plan to substitute military and school bands for a union band in the event.

Rodeo Parade Committee Chairman Robert Yee conceded in a letter to the Labor Council that in previous parades union bands have been hired.

But this year, he said, all parade participants have to be volunteers.

Local 510 Secretary Sam Zagami recalled that last year the parade had paid one band and Local 510 had furnished another, free to the promoters and paid by the union's Music Performance Trust Fund.

Yee told the council that school bands would probably appear and Zagami said he had been informed that school and military bands would perform.

The Department of Defense forbids appearances by service bands where they would displace civilian performers, Zagami noted.

Million vehicles were recalled last year

More than 1,200,000 American and foreign vehicles were involved in auto manufacturers' recalls for checks on possible safety defects in 1970, says the federal Transportation Department.

That total was much lower than in 1969, however, when there were 180 recalls of 7,900,000 vehicles, the department said.

American manufacturers in 1970 accounted for 738,251 vehicles, out-recalling foreign car makers whose recalls involved 502,555.

Since the Traffic & Motor

Vehicle Safety Act of 1966 became effective, requiring manufacturers to notify owners of any safety related defect discovered, a total of 15,364,914 vehicles had been recalled through last December.

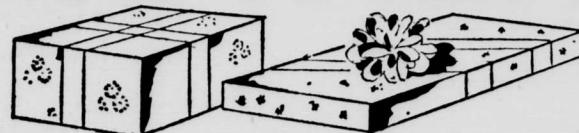
Ford was the biggest recaller in 1970, with 255,894 vehicles. Chrysler was next with 165,126 and General Motors recalled 141,806.

The department listed recalls of 156,404 by Nissan Motor Corporation and 111,629 by Toyota Motor Sales, among foreign manufacturers.



MOTHER'S DAY

MAY 9



On Mother's Day you will show your love and appreciation for your mother, the mother of your children or perhaps your mother-in-law.

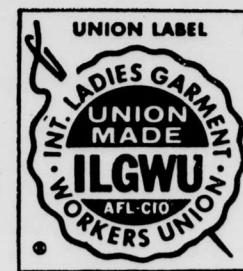
You can do it best with a gift which is practical and beautiful — lovely union-labeled wearing apparel which will be a reminder of your thoughtfulness throughout the year. It could be a colorful robe, lounging pajamas, a blouse, dress, slip or nightgown.

When you buy a garment which carries the ILGWU Union Label, it means you are getting a product made in America by skilled craftsmen under sanitary working conditions. The Union Label protects you against low-wage imports which deprive American workers of decent jobs at fair wages.

And the money you spend for union-labeled apparel will enable a union member to buy the products and services you produce . . . and help make your own job more secure. Make sure your gift carries the union label.

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OFFICIAL UNION NOTICES

AUTO & SHIP PAINTERS 1176 CARPENTERS 36

SPECIAL NOTICE

In accordance with the Local Union By-Laws, International Constitution and Federal law, you are hereby officially notified that the meeting of May 18, 1971 at the hour of 8 p.m., Hall H, Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, will be a Special Called Meeting for the purpose of nominations for all officers and business representative for Local Union 1176 for a three year term commencing July 1, 1971.

Election as prescribed by the Constitution and By-Laws will be June 15, 1971.

Auto, Marine & Specialty Painters 1176 meets on the first and third Tuesdays of every month in Room H, Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, at 8 p.m.

Fraternally,
LESLIE K. MOORE,
Business Representative

IRON WORKERS 378

Our Regular Executive Board meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, 8 p.m.

Stewards meetings also are held the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 8 p.m.

Our regular membership meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month, 8 p.m.

Fraternally,
BOB MCDONALD
Business Agent

PRINTING SPECIALTIES 382

Meeting second Friday of the month at 8 p.m. in Jenny Lind Hall, 2267 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland.

Fraternally,
TED E. AHL,
Secretary

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES 3

General membership meeting Hall C, Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez St., Oakland, the fourth Friday of the month, 8 p.m.

Fraternally,
JACK KENNEDY,
Business Representative

ALAMEDA CARPENTERS 194

Carpenters Local 194 meets the first and third Monday evenings of the month at 8 p.m. in the Veterans Memorial Building, located at 2201 Central Avenue, Alameda.

Refreshments are served following the first meeting of the month in the Canteen for all present. You are urged to attend your Local's meetings.

The meeting of May 17, 1971 will be a special called meeting for the purpose of nominating officers and delegates for the ensuing two-year term.

Fraternally,
WM. "BILL" LEWIS,
Recording Secretary

SHEET METAL WORKERS 216

The regular meetings are every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 8 p.m. in the Labor Temple.

Fraternally,
FRED HARMON,
Business Manager

SERVICE EMPLOYEES 18

General membership meetings of Service Employees Local 18 are held at 10 a.m. the 4th Saturday of each month in Jenny Lind Hall, 2267 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland.

There will be a meeting of window cleaners only on initiation fee and dues increase.

Meeting will be held at the union office on May 3, 1971 at 3 p.m.

Fraternally,
BEN J. TUSI,
Secretary

PRINTING SPECIALTIES 678

Meeting second Thursday of the month at 8 p.m. in Cannery Workers Hall, 492 C Street, Hayward, California.

Fraternally,
WILLIAM PRENDEBLE,
Secretary

AFSCME-EBMUD 444

The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for May 6, 1971 starting promptly at 7:30 p.m. Many reports on grievances, arbitration cases, representation elections and organizing programs will be made at this meeting. All officers are urged to attend.

The next General Membership meeting is scheduled for May 13, 1971, starting promptly at 7:30 p.m. Along with the reports on our representation elections, grievance cases and contract committee progress, our Chief Steward should have put together a program for a solid steward structure to help our members band together for our 1972-73 negotiations of a new contract.

Attend and participate in your union affairs.

Fraternally,
CHARLES E. TEIXEIRA,
Secretary-Treasurer

DENTAL TECHNICIANS 99

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 5, 1971, 8 p.m. at the Del Webb Towne House, Eighth & Market, San Francisco.

The filling of the position of Trustee, which was left over from the last meeting, will be taken up. Further reports on the Welfare Plan and grievance meetings and other important matters to be taken up.

Fraternally,
LEO TURNER,
Business Representative

BERKELEY CARPENTERS 1158

A Special Called Meeting has been called for 8 p.m. on Thursday, May 6, 1971 for the purpose of nominating candidates for all offices and all Delegates to the District Council of Carpenters and Alameda Building Trades Council for the term of office—July 1, 1971 to June 30, 1973. The Biennial election of officers will be held on Friday, June 4, 1971 from 12 noon to 8 p.m.

Members holding Contractors license are not eligible to vote.

The option to change may be exercised by carpenters within the Kaiser Service Area during the 45 days immediately preceding May 15 and will be effective commencing with eligibility June, 1971. An option to change received by the Fund Office after the close of business May 15, 1971 will be invalid and the next permissible date for change will be 1972.

Regular meetings are held the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 8 p.m. with a social following the meeting on the fourth Thursday.

The office of the financial secretary is open 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday; 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursdays, and 7:30 a.m. to noon Fridays.

Stewards meetings are at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. A stewards training program is held in conjunction with the stewards meeting.

Effective February 1, 1971, there is a \$3 assessment for each notice of dues arrearages and shall be paid by the member to whom such notice was mailed.

Effective April 1, 1971, there will be a \$4 Service Charge on ALL checks which are returned to the office, which have not been honored by the Bank they were written on.

Fraternally,
KYLE MOON,
Recording Secretary

SCHOOL EMPLOYEES 257

The Regular Meeting of the Oakland, California, Unified School Employees Local Union 257 will be held on Saturday, May 8, 1971, at 10:30 a.m. in the Castlemont High School Auditorium, 8601 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, California.

The Executive Board will meet at 8:00 a.m. in Community Room. All Board Members please take note.

Fraternally,
HAROLD BENNER,
Executive Secretary

Regular meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays of each month at Finnish Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut St., Berkeley, Calif.

Fraternally,
NICK J. AFDAMO,
Recording Secretary

from the EDITOR'S CHAIR

Soon they will be shouting 'Impeach Warren Earl'

Continued from page 1

continuing down the Warren court's desegregation line by declaring that busing is a constitutional means of implementing the 1954 decision.

It is a wellknown fact that the segregationist crowd had a considerable investment in "Impeach Earl Warren" material when he retired.

Justice Burger's decision may be of financial help to them. Rather than take a dead loss on all the unused printing they can reissue their bumper stickers and billboards, merely blocking out "Earl" and adding "Burger" after "Warren."

As a matter of fact, since the new Chief Justice's full name is Warren Earl Burger, the change could be made merely by transposing "Earl" and "Warren" and adding "Burger."

★ ★ ★

THE DECISION does not go along with Mr. Nixon's own ideas, although he nominated the Chief Justice, and Mr. Reagan's sidekick, Mr. Reinecke, is unhappy too.

Martha Mitchell, however, is unhappiest. She has no truck with mere impeachment but wants to abolish the Supreme Court—the word she uses is "extinguish" — as a group of nine old men who are overturning "the traditions of America."

I should like to remind Mrs. Mitchell that one tradition of America was put into these words by a man named Thomas Jefferson, a Southerner like Martha:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal..."

Old Tom did not say "created separate but equal." He said "equal."

Make the state pay

Assemblyman Ken Meade has introduced a bill to require the state to pay cities and counties for police overtime pay involved in campus disturbances. A companion Meade bill would require the state to pay Berkeley and Alameda County \$30,596 for overtime involved in University of California disturbances in 1970.

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EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL



FOUNDED APRIL 3, 1926 . . . Only Official Publication of Central Labor Council — AFL-CIO and Building Trades Council of Alameda County AFL-CIO.

45th Year, Number 7

JOHN M. ESHLEMAN, Editor

1622 East 12th Street, Oakland, Calif. 94606

April 30, 1971

Phone 261-3980

More valid criticism of trend in the PUC

The Assembly Committee on Commerce & Public Utilities has scathingly confirmed much of what organized labor and consumer groups have been saying for many months about Governor Reagan's Public Utilities Commission.

The PUC is now entirely a Reagan operation with all five of its members his appointees.

The Assembly committee has zeroed in on PUC President John P. Vukasin Jr., an Oakland Republican politician, as a "dilettantish" administrator who has torpedoed staff morale.

It opposes his plan to "rotate" commission personnel out of their fields of expertise, noting that such transfers while big utilities are demanding big rate raises "can only incapacitate them in their historic function of protecting the state's ratepayers . . ."

To which we add that in defending consumers against rate gouges, PUC staff members face highly skilled, experienced advocates for the utilities.

To move staff people into fields with which they are unfamiliar sets them and the consumer up for the kill.

The Assembly committee also takes on Vukasin's proposal to deny representation before the PUC to those without lawyers and to exclude those the PUC judges to have no "substantial and special interest."

Again we concur. This proposal is aimed at reducing the public's voice in vital matters of utility rates.

Taken together along with the Reagan commission's record of handouts to utilities, these proposals only indicate that the PUC is more interested in business profits than fairness to consumers.

This is a conclusion which is fully confirmed by the PUC's record of lavish handouts to highly profitable utilities—at the consumer's expense.

Let us remind the PUC and Mr. Vukasin that a major part of their job is to protect the consumer.

This is the meanest trick

Los Angeles newspaper unions for three years, four and one-half months, have been struggling valiantly against professional scabbing at the Hearst Herald-Examiner.

Union men and women everywhere have seen their battle as every working person's battle. The once-powerful Herald-Examiner has been reduced to a scab-infested hulk by boycott of the Her-Ex and its advertisers.

Now comes what must qualify as the meanest trick yet against that boycott.

The Los Angeles city council has before it a proposed ordinance governing newsvendors, the key provision of which would forbid "use of any newsstand for advertising signs or political purposes" other than those associated with sale of publications.

That would take off Los Angeles newsstands the "Please Don't Buy Herald-Examiner" signs with which union vendors have helped their fellow newspaper industry employees fight Hearst scabbing.

This, in our estimation, is a direct violation of free speech and a move to support scab-hiring George Hearst and his scab Herald-Examiner.

We're a bit far from the scene to have any influence with the Los Angeles city fathers, but we can again remind Bay Area unionists that the bitter Hearst fight still goes on and is of the utmost importance to all working people.

And we can and do recommend that Bay Area unions and unionists help that fight by continuing to send financial help to the Herald-Examiner Joint Strike-Lockout Council, 225 West Eleventh Street, Los Angeles 90015.

'Aha! This Time We Got You!'



Senate OKs public service jobs for jobless

The Senate voted to set up a public service employment program that the AFL-CIO called desperately needed both by unemployed workers and by local and state governments with jobs open but no money to meet the payroll.

The bipartisan legislation authorizes up to \$1,750,000 over two years, with the rate of funding keyed to the level of unemployment. The federal government would pick up 90 per cent of the cost of the program.

A smaller-scaled bill was vetoed by President Nixon last year

More union flavor in minority unionist course asked

Alameda County members of the labor advisory committee to the University of California minority union leadership training program told a UC representative last week that they are concerned that the program should have more union flavor.

Specifically, they told Director Don Vial of the UC Center for Labor Research & Education:

1. All teachers or counselors should be members of the American Federation of Teachers except public officials or attorneys speaking directly on their own fields or other union officers speaking for their organizations.

2. Unionists should be the only ones teaching such union-connected courses as collective bargaining, grievance handling, organizing, arbitration, union structure, politics, union administration and use of statistics in bargaining.

3. There should be no weight given in selecting students to the possibility that his union might contribute financially but that such "scholarships" be pinned down before anyone is chosen and should not be connected with any applicant.

Vial was studying the labor requests.

it out by 15 to 2 with all 10 Democrats and five of the seven committee Republicans voting for it.

Labor Secretary James D. Hodgson opposed it, telling the committee the administration would rather handle the problem of public service jobs for the jobless by tying it into Nixon revenue-sharing.

The measure could make 150,000 government jobs available to the longterm unemployed.

Hodgson's insistence that Nixon would oppose a separate public service jobs bill irked Senator Dominick V. Daniels, New Jersey Democrat who declared:

"I resent threats of a veto when the committee is starting on a bill. The administration can do what it wants. The committee will do as it sees fit."

House and Senate Democratic leaderships have made public service employment a top 1971 priority.

Mayors of 16 large cities have testified for public service jobs.

Continued high unemployment makes the measure imperative, House Speaker Carl Albert and Majority Leader Hale Boggs declared.

Letters to the editor

Seabee Reserve

Editor, Labor Journal:

Having just returned from two weeks active duty in the Navy's famed Seabees at "Camp Swampy" in Gulfport, Mississippi, I want to report on what the Seabee Reserve is doing for the nation.

The Fifth Naval Construction Regiment, headed by Captain Frederick L. Hotes, Commodore, is composed of two battalions, MCB-2 (Golden Gate Division) led by Commander R. M. Peterson, and MCB-18 (Montana-Oregon - Washington - Hawaii - Idaho), headed by Commander E. E. Coates.

They completed their assigned duties in spite of torrential rains.

Seabees are composed of skilled craftsmen from labor and management. Reservists include

union carpenters, laborers, cement masons, plumbers, operating engineers, auto machinists and others.

Membership in the present Seabee Reserve Battalion is much sought after. Union members can make up to \$60 a weekend once a month, while serving their country and using their skills. A wide range of talents are needed. Apprentices, as well as journeymen are a welcome part of the Reserve forces. Particularly welcome are veterans who can enter the Advanced Pay Grade Program.

Are you interested? Contact your local Navy Recruiting office or the nearest Naval Training Center, or contact Chief Benony, area code 415-848-7623.

GUNNAR (BENNY) BENONY, Carpenters Local 36, Builder Chief, Seabee Reserve



THE NIXON tactics of siding with employers against workers, making construction workers special scapegoats and turning the economy from prosperity to recession drew the fire of

AFL-CIO President George Meany, shown here as he keynoted the Building Trades Department Legislative Conference in Washington.

Congressmen pessimistic on Nixon fund action

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suspend the Davis-Bacon Act for prevailing wages on federal and federally-assisted construction.

They advised the union representatives that, while the wage "constraint" order which Nixon substituted for earlier Davis-Bacon Act suspension appeared legal, unions should closely watch its operation to determine if they were carried out legally.

And, Childers said, they agreed that the Nixon order, limiting construction pay-benefit raises to a maximum of 6 per cent a year unfairly singled out construction labor.

The conference drew 5,000 building trades leaders from all over the nation. They heard AFL-CIO President George Meany denounce Nixon for attempts to make scapegoats of organized labor and served notice that election day, 1972 would be a day of reckoning.

The three-day conference was followed by a one-day session on job safety and occupational health — focusing on the union role in implementing the new laws passed by Congress.

Meany served notice that "we will not accept the role of scapegoat for the failures of this Administration. We will not be the patsies for these people."

He stressed, "we have an organization known as COPE" and "I'd like to remind everyone here that 1972 is a national election year."

Meany recited the sober evidence of the deterioration of the economy since President Nixon took office and his economic strategists devised the Administration's "game plan" to slow the economy.

Not only did it bring an end to 95 months of economic progress, Meany said, but:

- Housing starts dropped.
- Industrial production started to skid.
- Working hours were cut.
- Layoffs became more frequent.
- Interest rates soared.

"Today," Meany said, "27 months after the Nixon Administration took office, we have continuing high unemployment and continuing high prices."

Despite the economic stagnation—in fact, contributing to it

—“the Administration has frozen over \$12,000,000,000 of funds already appropriated by Congress,” Meany noted.

"Most of these frozen funds," he said, "are for construction of such needed things as roads, airports, public housing, water and sewer facilities and the Appalachian Regional Development Plan."

The AFL-CIO has urged the Administration time and again to put these funds to work. This would create jobs . . .

Alameda County unionists besides Childers interviewing Congressmen included BTC President Paul Jones and others from Laborers Local 304, George Hess, Plumbers & Gas Fitters Local 444; Tom Sweeney, Electrical Workers Local 595; Joe Egan, Plasterers Local 112; William Ward, Lathers Local 88; Allen Linder and Paul Makela, Carpenters Local 36; Bruce Dillashaw, Cement Masons Local 594; Jim Newman and Keith Griffin of Sheet Metal Workers Local 216 and others.

Congressman Ronald V. Dellums had indicated he would be present but failed to appear, Childers said.

EBMUD could have saved itself a bargaining vote

AFSCME-East Bay Municipal Utilities District Local 444 proved its contention that an authorization card check would make it bargaining representative for EBMUD Pardee/Aqueduct employees by an overwhelming election victory.

The vote in a State Conciliation Service supervised election last week was 25 for Local 444 and three for no organization.

In March the union had criticized management's insistence on an election, despite Local 444's card showing of a majority. The union noted then that EBMUD had agreed to an employee association's representation of three units without elections.

The election was a case of fighting management obstacles, the union said. And, it reported that its election observer, Secretary-Treasurer Charles E. Teixeira, had been told he would be docked five hours pay for the time he spent on the election.

Teixeira, like Local 444 President Manuel Pontes who was docked for time as an observer at an earlier representational election, also won by Local 444, will file a grievance.

Here's Local 444's account of moves prior to the election:

Management spent two months scrutinizing classifications after Local 444 petitioned for representation on January 10, and then decided to establish a representation unit.

At a hearing with the Conciliation Service on the unit, management said it had discovered that one Pardee Dam job was inadvertently misplaced on the voting list.

To save time, the union agreed to drop that position from the list.

A few days before the election, the union learned that management had sent the two absentees ballots to Pardee Dam, instead of following the required procedure under which only employees were to pick up and sign for the ballots.

A union member at Pardee notified the Conciliation Service which voided the ballots and provided another opportunity for their distribution. But said the union, management again dispatched the ballot to Pardee, resulting in one union challenge, voiding a ballot.

The other absent voter appeared at the polling place and his ballot was counted.

Prices, joblessness rise

The Nixon-managed economy showed more of the same in March as prices rose and so did unemployment.

Nationally, grocery prices climbed 1.1 per cent, the sharpest increase in six months, and over-all consumer prices climbed three-tenths of 1 per cent.

In the Bay Area, consumer prices climbed one-half of 1 per cent in the first three months of the year. Food prices here rose 1.1 per cent in the same period.

The increases came against a backdrop of rising joblessness which climbed in California from a 6.7 per cent rate in February to 7.1 per cent in March.

The state's jobless totalled 675,000, a 41 per cent increase in a year.

The price rise here was the

smallest three-month increase in five years, but it left prices 4.1 per cent above March, 1970.

Nationally, the price increase in March was the largest in three months. The index was 5.3 per cent over March, 1970.

The consumer prices indexes nationally and in the Bay Area showed similar increases over the 1967 base period. Here the index reached 119.1 per cent of the 1967 price level and nationwide, the index was 119.8.

That meant that it took \$11.91 here in the Bay Area to buy what \$10 would have covered in 1967 and averaged over the nation \$11.98 was needed to cover \$10 in 1967 purchases.

Price increases and decreases between December and March 31 here were listed by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics as:

HEALTH and RECREATION, up 1.5 per cent, led by a 3 per cent increase in medical care — physicians' and dentists' fees and hospital charges.

HOUSING, down one-half of 1 per cent, mainly because of a drop in mortgage interest rates. The housing drop was the main reason why the three-month over-all consumer price rise was smaller than in other recent periods.

APPAREL and UPKEEP, up 1.2 per cent, with women's and girls' clothing leading at a 1.9 per cent increase clip.

TRANSPORTATION, up six-tenths of 1 per cent, reflecting higher new car, arts and service prices which more than offset lower prices for used cars and gasoline.

FOOD, up 1.1, led by a 4.2 per cent increase in fruit and vegetable prices.

Other notes on the economy:

• **Work hours in mining, manufacturing and construction**, taken as a whole, were down 1.5 per cent in February from January and 8.5 per cent below February, 1970. Construction work hours alone were off 3.5 per cent.

• **Non-farm employment in California and seven other Pacific states** rose only by about 40,000 in March, a less than normal increase for the month.

No offer to phone union

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health care improvements including dental and prescription drug care.

Management had made no offer or counterproposal anywhere during the first three weeks of talks, Local 9415 President Loren

Blasingame reported, but contented itself with discussing union proposals.

The agreements whose expiration date is today were gained in a nationwide strike in 1968.

Western Electric is the Bell System's equipment manufacturing and installing firm which serves area telephone companies throughout the country.

Labor civil rights chief to address BACOP luncheon

AFL-CIO Civil Rights Director Donald Slaiman will address the Bay Area Construction Opportunity Program's third annual luncheon next Wednesday, May 5 at the Oakland Hilton Inn, 1 Hegenberger Road.

BACOP, a labor-management-community project, has brought 527 minority workers into building trades apprenticeship as a Bay Area affirmative action effort.

Its support comes from construction labor, including the Alameda County Building Trades Council, management and minority representatives.

Slaiman is an advocate of the Apprenticeship Outreach concept for minority integration in employment.

Admission to the no-host luncheon is \$5, payable at the door.

Carpenter auxiliary sets sale May 10

Carpenters Ladies Auxiliary 160 will hold its annual rummage sale Monday, May 10 at I.D.E.S. Hall, C Street & Foothill Boulevard in Hayward.

The bargain event will open at 9 a.m. and proceeds will furnish the auxiliary's working capital for the next year.

Demo Women's lunch

Dr. Walter Friedlander, professor emeritus of social welfare at the University of California, will address the Alameda County Democratic Women's Study Club at its regular luncheon meeting next Wednesday, May 5 at Tom Lovel's Buffet, 336 Grand Avenue, Oakland. He will talk on the United Nations as a means of survival.

New Dellums office

Seventh District Congressman Ronald V. Dellums has opened a second office in the district, at 2490 Channing Way, Berkeley, in addition to his office at 201 Thirteenth Street, Oakland.

Phone workers demonstrate over firings

Union members this week were protesting firing of two telephone company employees and the suspension of a third and Communications Workers Local 9415 was fighting the cases via grievance procedure.

Members demonstrated at the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company, 2216 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, office before their shifts, at noon and after work through Thursday.

One firing was of an installer-repairman who was placed on light duty by a com-

pany doctor after suffering a minor injury in one of several plant mishaps, although he lost no time from work, the union said.

Another installer-repairman was fired for failing to conform to "company standards of defensive driving" after a non-injury truck collision.

The suspended man drew his discipline for being late to work while discussing the injured man's firing with an irate group of fellow employees outside the office.

Hearing set on scab ban

Continued from page 1

sibility for public instruction by 1975, exclusive of federal aid.

2. San Francisco Assemblyman John Francis Foran introduced AB 2612, sponsored by the Federation, to equalize the political contribution advantage of rich candidates by permitting state income taxpayers to designate \$5 of their tax to the party of their choice.

3. A subcommittee of the Assembly Ways & Means Committee voted to restore the more than \$830,000 cut from the Department of Industrial Relations budget by Governor Reagan.

Recording industry pact

The American Federation of Television & Radio Artists won two 10 per cent pay increases for singers in a new three-year recording industry contract. The agreement improves pension, welfare and other fringes.

SUPPLEMENT TO EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL

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